

19. (Amended) A method of alleviating symptoms associated with an autoimmune disease comprising:

obtaining a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen involved in said autoimmune disease, wherein said composition is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells; and

administering said composition to an individual suffering from said autoimmune disease.

49. (Amended) A method of reducing disease symptoms in an individual comprising:

identifying an individual in need of an increased level of IL-10 and in need of stimulation of peripheral tolerance; and

increasing the level of IL-10 and stimulating peripheral tolerance in said individual by administering a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen, wherein said composition is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells.

64. (Amended) A method of reducing disease symptoms in an individual comprising:

identifying an individual in need of a reduced level of IFN γ ; and

decreasing the level of IFN γ in said individual by administering a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen, wherein said composition is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells.

65. (Amended) A method of reducing the symptoms of an autoimmune disease resulting from an immune response to a plurality of self antigens comprising:

administering a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen, wherein said composition is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells and wherein said antigen is one of the antigens responsible for said autoimmune disease.

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Please add the following new claims:

66. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein said antigen is associated with an autoimmune disease.

67. (New) The method of Claim 49, wherein said antigen is associated with an autoimmune disease.

68. (New) The method of Claim 64, wherein the antigen is associated with an autoimmune disease.

The specific change to the amended claims are shown on a separate set of pages attached hereto and entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. On this set of pages, the insertions are double underlined while the deletions are stricken through. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this matter he is invited to telephone the undersigned so that the questions may be resolved.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 8, 9, 23, and 24 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 10, 19, 49, 64, and 65 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen associated with an autoimmune disease, wherein said composition immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells.

10. (Amended) The composition of Claim 9 1, wherein said antigen is associated with an autoimmune disease selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, insulin-dependent diabetes and ulcerative colitis.

19. (Amended) A method of alleviating symptoms associated with an autoimmune disease comprising:

obtaining a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen involved in said autoimmune disease, wherein said immunoglobulin or portion thereof composition is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells; and

administering said composition to an individual suffering from said autoimmune disease.

49. (Amended) A method of reducing disease symptoms in an individual comprising:

identifying an individual in need of an increased level of IL-10 and in need of stimulation of peripheral tolerance; and

increasing the level of IL-10 and stimulating peripheral tolerance in said individual by administering a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen, wherein said immunoglobulin or portion thereof composition is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells.

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decreasing the level of IFN γ in said individual by administering a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen, wherein said composition immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells.

65. (Amended) A method of reducing the symptoms of an autoimmune disease resulting from an immune response to a plurality of self antigens comprising:

administering a composition comprising an immunoglobulin or portion thereof linked to an antigen, wherein said composition immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of crosslinking Fc receptors present on the cell surfaces of antigen presenting cells and wherein said antigen is one of the antigens responsible for said autoimmune disease.